AN HISTORICAL SKETCH

OF

SALISBURY,

CONNECTICUT.

An Historical Sketch

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CONNECTICUT.

BY

MALCOLM DAY RUDD,

AND

An Explanatory Note on Indian Names,

BY

IRVIN W. SANFORD.

SUPPLEMENTARY TO SANFORD'S MAPS OF SALISBURY.

NEW YORK:
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TO THE READER.

This sketch of Salisbury is perforce an epitome; a catacomb of facts, tedious in the extreme, unless viewed sympathetically. The statistician's only hope lies in the imagination of the reader. Then be a lithe hunter in trackless wilds, a shrewd and cautious Hollander, a spare, twang-tongued New Englander, a Whig, a Tory, what you will, for there is no limit to your fictitious past. Leave for an hour the world of 1900 and these dry bones will be re-animated and invested with the charm of life in other days. The scene is set; you must be the player.

M. D. R.

JULY 18th, 1899.

AN HISTORICAL SKETCH

—OF—

SALISBURY, CONN.

Politically and socially, the history of Salisbury is similar to that of most Connecticut towns, though considering its small population, scattered over a large territory, distant from commercial and educational centres, it has been singularly productive of men of power in the various walks of life. From this town have gone out at least five Governors of States, three Chief Justices of States, three United States Senators, eight members of Congress, one Secretary of War, two college presidents and numerous other dignitaries of church and state. To-day the town is most widely known as a summer resort and the home of schools; its condition, as a whole, is prosperous in all the varied senses of the word that attain to the general well-being of the people. The great natural beauty of this region, which is its chief claim to public recognition, cannot be enhanced by poor pen description, hence we have not commented upon it, but have outlined merely those incidents that have influenced the growth and character of this little commonwealth.

We cannot tell the year in which white men first saw Salisbury; at least it is quite certain that they saw it two hundred and twenty-three years ago this month of August; if earlier than that, they left no record of it. This first view of Housatonic intervale was given to a band of Colonial troops under Maj. John Talcott, who in 1676, the year of King Philip's death, set out from Westfield, Mass., and gave chase to a large body of Indians who were fleeing to the westward. On the third day of the pursuit, says Benjamin Trumbull, the Indians were found securely encamped on the west side of Housatonic River, about midway between Westfield and Albany. This spot, adds Judge Church, was about a mile

south of the Salisbury-Sheffield boundary line, and consequently in the extreme northeastern corner of Salisbury. At daybreak the Colonists made a successful attack, in which the Sachem of Brookfield and forty-four other Indians were either killed or taken and the remainder of the force driven into the dense woods, whence they escaped. The first authority for this incident is found in a letter from the Council of Connecticut to Gov. Andross of Massachusetts, dated Aug. 19, 1676, which tells of the pursuit of some one hundred and fifty Indians, who were overtaken and fought "neare unto Ousatunick," forty of whom were slain and fifteen more taken captive.

It is natural to suppose that Indians inhabited this locality in 1676 and previous to that date. Whether or not they espoused the cause of the fugitives who were attacked by Talcott is unknown; certain it is that by the year 1725 the Indians of the vicinity were on friendly terms with the Colonial Government. In that year, upon the alarm of an invasion of eastern and northern Indians, the Governor and Council directed a scouting party to set out from Simsbury "across the wilderness to Housatunnack and Weataug," to inform the sachems of Indians in those places "that, as we look upon them to be our friends, we send them this news * * * that they may secure themselves in the best manner they can from said enemie; and further to inform them that, it being difficult to distinguish them from the enemie, they are forbid to hunt or travel in the land belonging to this government on either side of the Housatunnack River, where we must send our scouts to discover the enemie that come down this way."

It is probable that Metoxen was the Sachem of Weatogue referred to, as he and other Indians resided there in 1719, as appears from a deed of that date. Weatogue seems to have been a settlement of some importance, similar to those at Stockbridge, New Milford and Kent. Moreover, it is believed that these various Indians were united by ties of blood, many, if not all of them being of Mohegan lineage of an ancestry that had been driven by the Iroquois from the Hudson to the Housatonic valley. Another theory as to the origin of the Weatogue Indians is that they were a band of fugitive friendlies that fled westward from Simsbury before the wrathful Philip, and, settling upon the home of an extinct race of valley Indians, called their new abode on Housatonic River after their old one on Farmington River—Weatogue. At all events, and of chief importance, the fact remains that these Indians, whatever their tribal origin was, made no opposition to settlement by the whites. Indian treachery was so indelibly impressed on the minds of the colonists that they took precautions against attack in the form of block-houses, but the attitude of

the natives, without exception, so far as known, was passive and sometimes even servile. A few traditions regarding them are still repeated, a stone implement is now and then turned by the ploughshare, a burial place is pointed out here and there, but the only lasting reminder they have left is in the names of natural objects, a careful attempt to preserve which has been made in the accompanying maps.

From 1676 to October, 1714, history is silent in regard to Salisbury. In the latter month and year Robert Livingston, engaged in defining the limits of his manor, visited the western portion of the town, accompanied by a surveying party. About the year 1717 a visit to Salisbury was paid by a party of surveyors, who laid the Connecticut-Massachusetts colony line. At this time the ravine now called Sage's was discovered.

In May, 1719, the General Assembly, fearing the encroachment of squatters upon its unprotected and unsettled territory, decreed that the tract of land north, east and west of Litchfield, a town incorporated by the same Assembly, "shall lie for the further dispose of this Assembly, and all surveyors and persons appointed to lay out lands are hereby forbidden to bound or lay out any of said land without the special order of this Assembly."

So much for the Colony of Connecticut. In order to find the real discoverers of Salisbury we must turn to the Province of New York. Either through surveyors or traveling Indians, or in some other way, probably the first mentioned, certain shrewd and persevering Dutchmen residing in Livingston's Manor learned of the beautiful river to the eastward, flowing between mountains, through a country that could not be other than fertile. Why should these men desiring this land that it might bring them more freedom and greater prosperity wear themselves to the bone in order to learn the pleasure of Connecticut in regard to its western lands? Indeed, they did not, but at least two of them, White and Vandusen, appeared some time in 1719 and purchased land of the Indians.

This, then, was the beginning of Salisbury, made at Weatogue, the probable meaning of which is "the wigwam place," a region bounded about 1720 as follows: On the east by the Housatonic River; thence on the north by a line to Lake Hokonkamok; thence south to Wotawanchu Hill; thence along said hill to the first bounds at the Housatonic falls. This land, and an additional tract extending south of the falls as far as the mouth of the Salmon-fell-kill, or a little below it, comprised Weatogue. In January, 1720, Dyckman, Dutcher and Knickerbacker also made purchases in Weatogue of the Indians and of Gaylord and Noble of New Milford. Gaylord and Noble had received a grant a short time before which legitimatized their sale, but later on the Indian purchases were all relinquished to the

colony, in which alone was the right of pre-emption, "the Indian right being considered, then as now, only a right of occupancy, and not of sale." These and other grantees, however, received grants of land from the colony as a recompense for their expense and labor.

It is possible that these Dutchmen still considered themselves inhabitants of the Province of New York, but we imagine that the question of jurisdiction was of little importance to them, as long as they could acquire broad acres of sheltered and alluvial intervale, catch their fish from the swift flowing river "beyond the hills," and, though isolated, live in comparative peace and freedom.

Of this group of settlers the most important member was Johannes Dyckman, without doubt the same who, in 1715, was captain of the Livingston Manor company of militia, seventy strong, and also identical with that "Capt. Dyke" said by Crossman in 1803 to have been killed at the hollow (now Lime Rock, near which was Dyckman's purchase of 1720) by a falling tree. His will, dated in 1732 at the manor, presumably at the house of his attorney, was proved at New Haven in 1737, where the writer saw it a few months ago.

Lawrence Knickerbacker, who settled near the mouth of the Salmonfell-kill, was a private in the Manor Company of 1715, and perhaps was the father of John and Cornelius Knickerbacker, whose posterity was numerous.

William White, an Englishman, who died Jan. 5, 1750-51, in his 85th year, had long been a resident of the Dutch settlements, married a Dutch wife and was a sergeant in the Manor Company of 1715.

Abraham Vandusen, who died April 16, 1746, and Ruluff Dutcher were the progenitors of large families, as were also all of these settlers, excepting Dyckman, who, it is believed, left no son.*

The Weatogue community grew and prospered and came to the notice of the Colony officials. Dutcher, of Weatogue, also purchased lands on the Canaan side of the river, where Hollenbeck and Hogeboom were contemporary settlers.

Affairs continued thus for some ten or twelve years. In the summer of 1732 the Colony surveyed the towns of Salisbury and Sharon. Salisbury, designated township M., preserves to-day its original boundaries. It was represented that the land was much broken by mountains and ponds, but that it would accommodate a suitable number of persons to form a town. Wood and water were abundant, and the land, though covered with long, rank grass, was cheap and easily convertible into good pastures and meadows. In addition to this, and of prime importance, it was known that abundant beds of iron ore were awaiting the pick and shovel of Enterprise.

* Dyckman did leave issue:—
I John
II Maricia m. Lawrence Knickerbacker.

In May, 1738, the new township, called from that date Salisbury, was publicly auctioned at Hartford. Its purchasers or original proprietors were:

Thomas Lamb,	Joshua White,
Thomas Fitch,	Titus Brown,
Christopher Dutcher,	Edward Phelps,
Elias Reed,	Thomas Pierce,
John Beebe,	Thomas Newcomb,
James Beebe,	Benjamin White,
Daniel Edwards,	Eleazer Whittlesey.
Joseph Tuttle,	Richard Seymour,
David Allen,	Robert Walker,
George White,	Thomas Norton.

These proprietors were empowered to call a meeting, choose clerks, appoint committees, agents and collectors, grant taxes and make partition of lands. This sale of Salisbury was, of course, exclusive of previous grants and purchases, and consisted of twenty-five shares, which were set up at £30 per share or right. One right was set aside for the support of the ministry, another for the support of schools, and the remaining rights were sold as above mentioned. At the proprietors' first meeting in April, 1739, it was decided to lay out four divisions of land, each proprietor taking his share by allotment. After this the proprietors, in turn, sold various parts of their lots to newcomers, thus beginning that endless conveyaucing of lands from one person to another, until at the present time it is a labor oftentimes unsatisfactory, to trace original ownerships.

Having arrived at the year 1740, let us survey the condition of the inhabitants. According to the Rev. J. W. Crossman, our earliest printed authority on local matters, there were about the year 1740 eleven English and five Dutch families settled in the township. They were: Whites, Beebes, Lambs, Herveys, Newcombs, Woodworths, Allens, Baylises, Dutchers, Knickerbackers and Vandusens. These seem to have been in prosperous circumstances, for in 1741 the population was large enough to warrant a petition for town incorporation. A charter was granted by the Assembly in that year conferring civil and religious privileges equal to those enjoyed by the other towns in the colony. On Nov. 9, 1741, the first town meeting was held. Thomas Newcomb was Moderator, and Salisbury's first set of town officers was elected, as follows: Cyrenius Newcomb, Town Clerk; Benjamin White, Thomas Newcomb and John Smith, Selectmen; Samuel Beebe, Treasurer, and Thomas Austin, Constable.

The first political power enjoyed by the people was conferred in 1728, when an official brander of live stock was elected by the inhabitants of

Weatogue. The name of the person honored by the first exercise of town suffrage has not been learned.

Upon the incorporation of the town its appearance at once changed for the better. Highways were surveyed, bridges built and the establishment of the ministry, the school system and the militia agitated. After several unsuccessful attempts to settle a minister, the Rev. Jonathan Lee was ordained Nov. 23, 1744, and continued his pastorate until his death, Oct. 8, 1788. His successors have been the Revs. Messrs. Joseph W. Crossman, Lavius Hyde, Leonard E. Lathrop, Adam Reid, Cornelius L. Kitchell and John C. Goddard. The present Salisbury Congregational Church building was completed in 1800.

The Episcopalian element, though considerable and influential in the early days, was not sufficiently strong to warrant parish organization until a short time after the close of the Revolution. In 1822 St. John's Church was built at Salisbury, and in 1873 Trinity Church, at Lime Rock. Rev. Stephen Beach was the first rector of the Salisbury Episcopal Society. His successors have been the Revs. Messrs. Lucius W. Purdy, David S. Devins, William Warland, Geo. H. Nichols, Ruel H. Tuttle, Samuel Jarvis, J. A. Wainwright, William A. Johnson and James H. George.

The Methodists also gathered some strength here shortly after the Revolution, the first preacher of that denomination appearing here in 1787. In 1816 the church at Lakeville was built, and chapels were erected at Chapinville in 1832 and at Lime Rock in 1845.

The Lakeville church was established as a station in 1834. Since then its pastors in order have been the Revs. Messrs. Julius Field, A. Bushnell, Jr., O. V. Ammerman, T. Bainbridge, W. K. Bangs, Jacob Shaw, Parmalee Chamberlain, O. V. Ammerman, D. W. Clark, W. H. Ferris, John Seys, P. Ward, W. G. Browning, S. C. Perry, E. S. Stout, G. Draper, E. Foster, R. Wheatley, Valentine Buck, O. Haviland, Q. J. Collins, N. Hubbell, C. Wright, W. S. Bouton, Wm. Stevens, John G. Oakley, Stephen F. White, W. M. Evans, S. J. McCutcheon, David Phillips, F. D. Abrams and Jesse Ackerman.

About 1850 the Roman Catholics established a mission at Falls Village and erected the church there in 1854. This parish included several towns in Litchfield County, and for some time was the only parish between Bridgeport and Pittsfield. In 1875-6 St. Mary's Church was erected at Lakeville, then formed into a separate parish. The pastors at Lakeville have been Revs. Frs. H. J. Lynch, Patrick Fox, Patrick Donohoe and T. F. Bannon. About 1883 this denomination erected at Lakeville a convent and a parochial school.

But to return from our digression. We left the town fully organized in

1744. Agents were sent to the General Assembly from time to time, but the first Representative, John Everts, Esq., did not sit until May, 1757. The first Grand List of taxable property was made in 1742 and amounted to £2,279 10s. 6d. In 1756 the population was estimated at 1,100. This was considerably increased during the next twenty years, in spite of the extensive emigration of many of the younger and most energetic men to the New Hampshire Grants, afterward Vermont. Among these settlers were the Allens, Chipmans, Chittendens, Everts, Slausons, Hydes, Owens and Hanchetts. In the house of John Everts, Esq., near the present residence of Mr. M. H. Robbins, was held, about 1761, the first meeting of the proprietors of Middlebury, Vt., the charters of that town, of Salisbury and New Haven having been granted to a party of men mostly of Salisbury, Ct.

By the year 1774 the population numbered 1,980, scattered over an area of fifty-eight square miles, the majority being in the following settlements: Salisbury Center, Salisbury Furnace, afterward Furnace Village, and now Lakeville; the Hollow, now Lime Rock; Ore Hill, Camp's Forge, called Chapinville since about 1825; Weatogue, and Housatonic Falls, now Falls Village. There may also have been some settlement at Mt. Riga, though that village did not come into prominence until after 1800.

On Aug. 22, 1774, the inhabitants, in town meeting assembled, passed resolutions condemning the action of the mother country in closing Boston Harbor as the result of "an absurd and self-confuted spirit of punitive malevolence, particularly leveled against the Province of Massachusetts Bay * * * which threatens unsupportable convulsions to the whole empire," and resolving that "our poor brothers of Boston, now suffering for us, shall share with us our plentiful harvest."

This was the first act of a wholly patriotic course pursued by the town throughout the war. It is estimated that of the population of 1,980 souls not more than 350 were men of twenty to sixty years of age; of this number the meagre records show at least one hundred and twenty enlisted men and non-commissioned officers and some twenty commissioned officers who did service either in the Continental Line regiments, the militia or Alarm Lists. Of the officers the most prominent was Col. Elisha Sheldon, commander of the Second Light Dragoon Regiment, Continental Army, 1777-1783; Samuel Blagden, lieutenant-colonel of the same; Col. Joshua Porter and Col. Nathaniel Buell, of the State Militia. No more honorable mention can be made than of the four brothers Stoddard—Luther, major of militia and line regiments; Josiah, captain in Sheldon's Dragoons, who died in service; Darius, a regimental surgeon during the whole war, and Samuel, a non-commissioned officer in the Connecticut line. Did space allow, other similar instances might be mentioned.

From 1777 to 1783, 235 citizens are recorded as having taken the Oath of Fidelity to the State. Besides this, and of great importance in the conduct of the war, were the cannon and other munitions manufactured at the furnace in Lakeville. Nor can we overlook those citizens too old or infirm to participate in active warfare, who guided the Town Councils, cared for the families of absent soldiers, declared enlistment bounties and in every possible way lent their assistance to the good cause. Moreover, Salisbury may with justice make some claim to the honors won by such men as Gen. Ethan Allen and Col. John Chipman, who would have represented her in the struggle but for their recent removal to Vermont.

The Declaration of Peace found the country in a most deplorable condition. Released from the menace of foreign enemies, civil troubles overshadowed the path in which certain wise patriots were attempting to lead the people. There had been the first burst of triumphant joy upon welcoming home the armies, followed by a despondent realization of the poverty and utterly exhausted condition of the country. In this feeling Salisbury shared. In the few years of settlement only a beginning had been made at clearing the ground; little plots here and there were growing into thrifty farms when the war-dogs were unleashed. In 1783 we find the town declaring a bounty of 40 shillings on wolves, that in the absence of so many able-bodied citizens had again infested the mountains and continually molested outlying homes.

Gradually order appeared happily consummated in the establishment of the National Government. A period of commercial prosperity ensued, the population increased and slowly but surely various civilizing and refining influences wholesomely leavened the ignorance of the masses and the bigotry of brand-new independence.

A chief cause of Salisbury's share of this general prosperity was the growth of the industry of mining and manufacturing iron. It is likely that the Dutch settlers knew of the abundance of iron ore in the township, but were so few in numbers that they were unable to mine it to advantage. In 1731 Daniel Bissell, of Windsor, received a grant of one hundred acres, comprising the present Ore Hill. It was located soon after by John Pell and Ezekiel Ashley, and from that time it is supposed ore was dug. In 1734 we find Jared Elliot, Elisha Williams, Martin Kellogg, Robert Walker, Jr., Philip Livingston and John and Ezekiel Ashley petitioning the Assembly for a patent of the same one hundred acres. This was granted, and until recently descendants of some of these patentees were part owners of the mine.

The most energetic promoter of the local iron industry in the early days was Thomas Lamb, a shrewd and hardy speculator, Indian inter-

preter and "Jack of all trades," who was, according to Deputy Surveyor Clinton, of New York Province, "the first white settler at Anawawick after the Indians." He received several grants of land in Salisbury previous to the organization of the town, and after that carried on extensive real estate transactions. He owned the bed now called Davis', and from it supplied his forge at Lime Rock, which was in operation as early as 1734. He also owned the water privilege at Lakeville until 1748, when he sold it to Benajah Williams, Josiah Stoddard and William Spencer, who soon erected a small forge. In 1762 Col. John Hazeltine, of Massachusetts; Samuel and Elisha Forbes, of Canaan, and Ethan Allen, of Cornwall, came into possession by deed from Leonard Owen, who had previously purchased it. Allen remained a partner until October, 1765, when he emigrated to the New Hampshire Grants. These proprietors erected the first blast furnace built in Connecticut. After passing through the hands of Caldwell Bros., of Hartford, it was bought in 1768, by Richard Smith, merchant, at that time of Boston, Mass., and an Englishman by birth. Upon the outbreak of the Revolution, Smith returned to England, and his property was used, though not confiscated, by the State from 1776 to 1780, if not longer, during a part of which time Col. Joshua Porter was Superintendent for the State. Here were cast mortars, cannons (3 to 18 pounders), swivels, shot, hand grenades, camp kettles and other utensils that were widely used both on land and sea, and most materially contributed to the success of the American arms. It is probable that no ordnance was cast here previous to the Revolution, but at that time the strength and durability of the metal was demonstrated to such general satisfaction that the future of the industry was assured. Since then Salisbury iron has done untold service in our armies and navies, in our railroads and those of foreign countries as well, and in minor ways too numerous to mention.

Thus the small efforts of the settlers culminated in the blast furnace of 1762 on land now occupied by the Holley Manufacturing Company's factory. This furnace had a manufacturing capacity of some two and a half tons of iron in twenty-four hours.

Livingston's furnace at Ancram, in the Manor, which used Salisbury ore as early as 1743, and the Salisbury furnace, were the two most extensive local manufactories prior to the Revolution.

From the close of the Revolution a considerable trade in pig iron and various small wares, such as sleigh shoes, nail rods and so on, was carried on by the Johnstons, Luther Holley, Esq., Holley & Son and others.

In 1810 was formed the partnership of Holley & Coffing, in which centered for twenty-five years the manufacturing interests of the town. This concern completed the furnace on Mt. Riga begun there by King & Kelsey

about 1806, near the site of Ball's Forge of 1781. They also owned the works at Lime Rock, on the site of Lamb's Iron Works of 1734, the furnace at Lakeville, and in addition had other large interests in this State and in Western lands. Through them Salisbury iron (which is produced from an ore of the brown Hematite variety, yielding some 45 per cent. of iron) attained notoriety as a metal especially adapted to ordnance and other mechanism demanding toughness and elasticity. Dr. Shepard, in his Connecticut Geological Report for 1837, says: "The best Salisbury iron has obtained a decided preference over all other iron, either foreign or domestic, for the construction of musket and rifle barrels."

The late Alexander H. Holley, in a bit of autobiography written in 1862, says: "Between the years 1823-36 I was engaged in the business of Holley & Coffing, Coffing, Holley & Pettee and the Salisbury Iron Company, all the companies consisting chiefly of the same partners, except that Thomas Stiles and Timothy Chittenden were additional partners in the Salisbury Iron Company (incorporated 1828). The business done in the name of each of the respective firms was chiefly the manufacturing of iron in various forms and merchandizing. At Mt. Riga and Lime Rock musket iron was made for the United States armories at Harper's Ferry and Springfield, and also for private armories. We also manufactured anchors, cotton and tobacco screws, chain cable iron, mill irons and so on. During this period the Greeks freed themselves from the Turkish yoke, receiving aid from individuals and firms in this country. Holley & Coffing sent them a large case of muskets. We also made at Mt. Riga the large anchors for two frigates built in New York for the Greek Government."

In addition to the ironmasters already mentioned may be added various members of the Chapin, Sterling, Bostwick, Moore, Landon, Scoville, Canfield and Robbins families; also the firm of Eddy, Ames & Kinsley, established at Falls Village in 1833, which was greatly enlarged some years later by Mr. Oliver Ames. Here some very large cannon were cast during the Civil War and sold to the War Department.

The iron interests of this section are now vested in the Barnum Richardson Company, of Lime Rock, manufacturers of charcoal pig iron, car wheels and general castings from Salisbury ores. The founder of this company, Milo Barnum, established the business about 1830, associating with him his son-in-law, Leonard Richardson. This concern, after passing through several changes in the form of name and organization, remains to-day in the hands of lineal descendants of the founders and controls both the mining and manufacturing of Salisbury iron. Its interests are also extensive in other parts of the country. Nine-tenths of the pig iron procured from the 12,188 tons of ore taken from Salisbury mines in 1898

was cast into railroad car wheels. This branch of the industry was taken up by the Barnum Richardson Company about 1850 and has been carried on with great success, chiefly due to the remarkable tensile strength and toughness of the iron, combined with adaptability to the chilling process or hardening of the surface that receives the wear of usage. The man who was chiefly instrumental in increasing the business of this concern was the Hon. William H. Barnum, for some years Congressman and United State Senator from Connecticut and president of the company from 1864 till his death in 1889. Since 1889 Milo B. Richardson, nephew of Mr. Barnum, has been president and has followed the broad policy of his predecessor.

In connection with this industry may be mentioned the Hon. Frederick Miles of Salisbury, who was engaged in iron manufactures at Copake, Columbia County, N. Y., from Sept., 1861, until his death in 1895. The making of Columbia chilled plows, begun at these works in 1879, is now carried on by Mr. W. A. Miles.

Though the output of Salisbury iron is belittled by the immense production of cheaper metal in the South and West, though there is no demand for gun metal since the introduction of the Bessemer process of steel making, it maintains its standard as a metal inferior to none, and at the present time is being sold as fast as made.

The Harris Scythe Works, in the north part of the town, attained considerable notoriety early in the century, but have long since disappeared. In 1844 the Hon. A. H. Holley established at Lakeville the cutlery manufactory now called the Holley Manufacturing Company. Some forty years ago a manufactory of woolen and other fabrics was established on the mountain stream in Salisbury, but did not prove successful. On the same stream the Salisbury Cutlery Handle Company, organized in 1884, and the Morse Keefer Bicycle Company, organized in 1896, are now in a flourishing condition.

Salisbury remains an agricultural town, though less known for its products than formerly. About 1820 it yielded as large a wheat crop as any town in the State; also large quantities of barley and flax were grown, the production of the latter being relinquished before 1840, about which time grain ceased to find a market on the Hudson River, as formerly. Today such grain as is raised is mostly consumed by the grower, the largest cash farm product being milk, which is shipped to the cities in large quantities.

During the first quarter of this century the population was again depleted by the exodus to Central and Western New York and the Western Reserve in Ohio. Among others who left town at that time may be men-

tioned the Porters, Pumpellys, Johnstons, Watermans, Churches, Minards, Douds, Chapmans, Lovelands and Whittleseys. Since that time there has been no such extensive emigration from the town.

The census of 1790 placed the population at 2,070, that of 1800 at 2,321, that of 1820 at 2,695, that of 1830 at 2,580, that of 1840 at 2,551, that of 1850 at 2,690, that of 1860 at 2,994, that of 1870 at 3,303, that of 1880 at 3,715, that of 1890 at 3,420, and it is estimated that the census of 1900 will number about 3,600.

In 1755 the Grand List amounted to £9,988 4s. 6d., in 1840 to $41,805 and in 1898 to $1,834,771.

In 1818 there were 264 electors; in 1841, 493, and in 1898, 713.

As early as 1743 a company of militia was organized, which was increased to two some years later, and sent a number of men into the French and Indian wars. Again, in the war of 1861-65, 360 men enlisted from Salisbury, at least 11 of whom were commissioned officers, and 53 of whom were killed or died of disease contracted in the service.

The original school fund of the town was established in 1743, even before the settlement of a minister. In 1745 five so-called school squadrons were formed, from which have grown the present thirteen school districts, in which were enumerated, in October, 1897, 766 children. The expenditure upon this establishment for 1897-8 was $7,688.

The Hotchkiss Preparatory School was opened in October, 1892. It was founded by Mrs. Maria Bissell Hotchkiss, a native of Salisbury, and has graduated, including the present year, 182 students, most of whom have become members of Yale University. The school is situated on Town Hill, near Lakeville, where the proprietors laid out a green and market place about 1740. The beauty of this site is unsurpassed, commanding, as it does, an extended mountain view.

The new building of the Taconic School, a boarding school for girls, is nearing completion. This school was opened by Miss Eliza Hardy Lord in the fall of 1896, and was incorporated into a private stock company in February, 1898.

At Lakeville also is situated the Connecticut School for Imbeciles, a home and school for the feeble-minded persons of the State. This praiseworthy work was begun privately by Dr. Henry M. Knight in 1858, and was perfected by him into a highly useful institution, now in charge of his son, Dr. Geo. H. Knight.

In 1771 the Smith Library was established; £45 was subscribed by thirty-four citizens, and a large sum added, supposedly by Mr. Richard Smith, the owner of the furnace at Lakeville, in whose honor the library was named. In 1803 Caleb Bingham, of Boston, a native of Salsibury, gave

to the town a library for the use of the young. About 1880 Miss Harriet Church gave the "Church Library" of one hundred and fifty volumes. In 1894 the Scoville Memorial Library was built at Salisbury Center, through the beneficence of the late Mr. Jonathan Scoville and the family of the late Mr. Nathaniel C. Scoville. In this building are now collected the remains of the older public libraries, some six hundred volumes in all. The Scoville Library proper numbers some fifty-four hundred volumes.

Previous to 1741 there were no highways made at the public expense. The road over Town Hill from Lime Rock to Ore Hill is perhaps the earliest road worthy of the name, and was built by the proprietors, whose first division of land was laid out in that vicinity. Since the settlement of Weatogue there had been well-defined paths, presumably widened and straightened later on into our present principal highways. In 1801 was incorporated the Salisbury and Canaan Turnpike Company, whose road began near Simeon Higley's, in Canaan, and ended at the New York State line, and ran by way of Burrell's Bridge and Salisbury Furnace. Two toll-gates were built, one in Canaan, the other in Salisbury, at Fitch's Corner, nearly opposite the present residence of Mr. F. B. Reed. This was not a road of much public travel, though stage lines existed at various times. During the Revolution considerable traffic was carried on over this route between the Hudson River and Massachusetts.

The Hartford & Connecticut Western Railroad, since called the Central New England & Western, Philadelphia, Reading & New England, and now the Central New England Railway, was completed from Hartford to the New York State line in December, 1871, and passes through four villages of the township, viz., Chapinville, Salisbury Center, Lakeville and Ore Hill.

In 1792, says Church, the first postoffice was established at Furnace Village, and Peter Farman was appointed postmaster. There are now five offices in town, viz., Lakeville (called Lakeville since 1846), Salisbury Center, Chapinville, Lime Rock and Ore Hill, established about 1850, the latest of all.

Salisbury supports an unusually large number of good stores, the chief of which are those of the H. J. Bissell Company, A. F. Roberts, A. H. Heaton & Co. and E. R. La Place, at Lakeville; Geo. H. Clark, at Salisbury Center; the E. W. Spurr Company, at Lakeville and Falls Village, and James H. Barnum, at Lime Rock.

The first newspaper established in Salisbury was the Connecticut Western News, in 1871, which was moved to Canaan several years later. On Aug. 14, 1897, appeared the first number of the Lakeville Journal, which continues publication.

The Iron Bank of Falls Village, virtually a Salisbury institution, was

established in 1847. The Salisbury Savings Society was incorporated in 1848, and the firm of Robbins, Burrall & Co., established in 1874.

The Village Improvement Society of Lakeville, organized about 1880, was merged into the Village Park Association in 1894.

The Lakeville Water Company, chartered in 1886, having its reservoirs at the foothills of Mt. Riga, has extended its mains to Salisbury Center.

The Lakeville Gas Company was incorporated in 1899.

The following is a list of the civic and patriotic-military organizations existing in the town: Montgomery Lodge No. 13, A. F. & A. M., chartered 1783; Hematite Chapter No. 43, Royal Arch Masons, chartered 1880; Oren H. Knight Post No. 58, G. A. R., chartered 1882; O. H. Knight W. R. C. No. 45, chartered 1892; Hiram Eddy Camp No. 3, S. of V., chartered 1894; Scoville Division No. 22, K. of P., chartered 1894, and Court Wonosco No. 12, F. of A., chartered in 1896.

Beginning in 1803 with Crossman's Century Sermon we can count a dozen printed articles contributory to Salisbury history, but no complete and authoritative work has been written. It is safe to say that an attempt will soon be made to satisfy this need, and the public will be given an opportunity to countenance or discourage the project.

AUTHORITIES.

"Colonial Records of Connecticut," "Documentary History of New York," "History of Little Nine Partners, N. Y.;" Mss. Town Records of Salisbury; Crossman's Sermon, 1803; Church's Salisbury Centennial Address, 1841; Holley's Historical Address, 1876; "American Archives," etc.

INTRODUCTION.

In publishing a Historical Map of Salisbury it seems fitting to supplement a History and Explanation of the Indian Names in which the town abounds. This, at first thought, seemed an easy task, having obtained a copy of Trumbull's "Indian Names in Connecticut;" but after thoroughly examining this work we find that but few names are defined. We can only say that we have searched the highest authority and have given at least the correct spellings of them. It is a general belief that every Indian name had a significance; but many of the Indian geographical names, indeed most of them, after their adoption by the English colonists became unmeaning sounds or mere vocal marks. Their original significance has been lost, and nearly all of them have suffered some mutilation or change of form. The fact that every Indian name had a meaning adds greatly to our interest in them. The following must not be taken as authority, as many of the renderings are only mere suggestions.

To give a brief account of some of the local names which have crept into our town, such as Gallows Hill, Tory Hill, Tom's Barrack, Babe's Hill, etc., would be interesting, but space does not permit. We will, therefore, confine ourselves to the Indian names and trust that this work will incite a desire in our students, especially among the rising generation of our town, to acquaint themselves more particularly with the details of DEAR OLD SALISBURY.

IRVIN WILBUR SANFORD,

Ore Hill, Conn.

July 14, 1899.

HISTORY AND EXPLANATION OF INDIAN NAMES IN SALISBURY, CONN.

It may be interesting to know the history of the name of our State. The original spelling was QUINNEHTUKQUT: the Connecticut Valley; land "on the long, tidal river," QUINNI-TUKQ-UT. In 1643 Roger Williams wrote QUINNIHTICUT, for the Territory, and QUINTIKOOCK, the Indians who inhabited it. Other spellings have been: QUINETUCQUET, KENETIGOOT, CONITTEKOCK, etc.

HOUSATONUC, modern HOUSATONIC River. This name did not originally belong to the river, but was transferred from some locality near the river (in Mass.). Eunice Mahwee (or Mauwehu), the last fullblood survivor of the Scaticook band, in 1859, pronounced the name "HOUS'-A-TENUC," and interpreted it, "over the mountain." This agrees with the interpretation given to President Dwight, "the river beyond the mountain," and is undoubtedly correct. Among the different spellings are: Housetunack, Ousatunick, Ausotunoog, Housea Tunnic, etc.

Just how and when the Twin Lakes obtained the names "WASHINING" and "WASHINEE" we have been unable to learn. In 1881 Trumbull says, PANAHECONNOK, a pond south of the Massachusetts line, "at or near Weatogue," in Salisbury; called "North Pond" in 1743. The larger of the Twin Lakes, lately misnamed "Washining." That it had only lately been called Washining was doubtless a mistake, as Judge Church says, in 1841, "The two ponds at the north part of the town, described in the old records as 'lying very nearly close together' were called Washinee and Washining." These names are said by some to mean "laughing water" and "smiling water." The southern of these lakes is called, in the deed of WEATAUK, by the "MAHEKANDER" Indians, 1719, HOKONKAMOK. The deed gives the bounds as follows: Beginning "west of the Housatonic River, at the falls; thence up the river to a little run of water which comes in at a turn of said river (probably at Edward Ward's); thence up the

river (meaning, perhaps, up the brook) to a lake called Hokonkamok; thence straight to the end of a hill called WETAUTAUWACHON (i. e., WEATAUK Mountain); thence along said hill to the first bound. We are unable to get any meaning for these two names. The suffix of the latter Kamok (Komuk, comic, gomuck) often means "enclosure," or something limited or enclosed, but usually refers to land. We are inclined to think these names older and more authentic than Washining and Washinee.

WACHOCASTINOOK is, we think, the most beautiful of all our Indian names. Trumbull does not define the word, but it undoubtedly means "waterfalls," or something of that nature. The prefix WACH (WASH, WOCH, WASK, etc.) means "water." The old Dutch name, "Fell-Kill" (fall river or stream) would certainly indicate this. The Moore brook was long known by the Dutch name, "Salmon-kill," and below the junction of the brooks, near Salisbury, it was known as the "Salmon Fell-kill."

WEATAUK, WEATAUG, modern WEATOGUE, referred to meadows near the Housatonic River, in Salisbury, above Falls Village (see Historical Sketch, M. D. R.). The name seems to denote a place where Indians lived or had their wigwams (Wetu-auke, "wigwam place").

WETAUWANCHU was the name given to the range bounding Weatogue on the west. Wanchu (Wadchu, Watchu, Natchu, etc.) means "hill" or "mountain," hence the meaning "Weatogue Mountain." The northernmost peak of this range early received the Dutch name "Barack-Matiff." This is a composition of two words, both of which have the same meaning, a "steep, high cliff" or "hill."

The names of the lakes, "Furnace Pond" and "Long Pond," have suffered great changes and are by no means clear. For the spelling, "WONONSCOPOMUC," we are unable to find earlier authority than Judge Church. "WONONPAKOOK," for Long Pond, is found much earlier. The name given to Furnace Pond on early conveyances was WONUNKAPAUGOOK-PAUKOOK, with many variations, as: WONNUNKOPAUCOOK (substituted for "Great Pond," which was first written and erased), WONONCAPAWCOOK, UNKAPAUKOOK, WONONKOPOCO (1726), etc. The ending, "paucook," with variations, refers to some locality near the pond, and means "marshy," which is not very characteristic of the larger lake, but true to some extent of certain localities around Long Pond. The prefix, Wonon, probably means "land at a bend or turning of the pond." In the case of Wononscopomuc, it might refer to the quick bend where the Sucker Brook comes in, or to the north side, where it is indented by Holley Grove.

Judge Church, in speaking of the Landon family, says: "James settled in the south part of the town, near the small pond, called by us Beezelake Pond, and by the Indians Noncook." From the early con-

veyances we are led to believe that it was called Beeslake. Trumbull does not speak of the lake, and evidently did not know of its existence. He does, however, give "Tattaquannock-paucook (moh); in Salisbury, at or near a pond south of west of the Great Falls of the Housatonic, Long Pond, in the southwest part of Salisbury, which, on modern maps, is denominated "Wononpakok." "The name originally belonged to some locality near the pond, and describes "land at boggy-meadow pond," tattâganok-paug-auke. Tatâggan means, literally, a place which "shakes," or "trembles" (quaking bog or meadow)." Any one who is acquainted with the marshes around Beeslake will agree with us that this description is especially appropriate, and, on the other hand, not at all true of Long Pond.

TAGHKANNUC, TAUGHKAUGHNICK, modern TACONIC Mountains. TAGHKANICK CREEK, in Columbia Co., N. Y., gives its name to a township through which it flows. The name has been said to mean "water enough." This interpretation is certainly wrong. There are at least a dozen other meanings suggested. The least objectionable of these is probably "forest" or "wilderness," from "TOKONE," "woods," literally "wild lands" or "forest." "Before the charter of the town was granted," says Judge Church, "Thomas Lamb, in behalf of the Governor and company of the Connecticut Colony, purchased certain Indian rights of land in the present town of Sharon, and in Weatogue, 'for the consideration of eighty pounds and divers victuals and clothes.' The name of one of the signers of this deed, as nearly as I can read it upon the ancient State records, was TOCCONUC." Church gives this same spelling to the name of the mountains. Whether he meant to infer that the mountains took their name from the famous chief, we do not know, but we have been unable to find this same spelling elsewhere, and think the supposition very improbable.

The Salisbury Proprietors' Records, 1739, give the brook issuing from Lake Hakonkamok as "SCONNOUPS." Judge Church spells it, "SUCCONUPS." The name has been corrupted to "SCHENOB" and "KISNOP," which are unmeaning. Succonups, perhaps, comes from "MOSHENUPS-SUCK, "Moshenups, great pond"; "Suck, outlet," hence the outlet of the great pond.

Indian Mountain was called "POCONNUCK," probably from POQUANNOC, "cleared land," i. e., land from which the trees and bushes had been removed, to fit it for cultivation, or naturally clear or barren. Some place near this locality was called by the Moravian missionaries, Paquatnack, "bare mountain place."